

## STATE SHELTER SUBSIDY GRANT PROGRAM

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program provides up to 50% of an emergency shelter or voucher program's annual operating budget. These funds are available to programs with additional funding needs due to renovation/expansion of an existing shelter facility, the development of an existing building into a shelter facility, the expansion (or development) of shelter services or the inability of a shelter program to obtain adequate funding to continue an existing level of service.

### BACKGROUND

Estimates of the homeless population in Wisconsin range from 29,000 to 34,000. The emergency shelter programs funded by the State Shelter Subsidy Grant Program provided approximately 398,000 nights of shelter to 24,000 persons annually.

### ELIGIBILITY

An eligible applicant may be a county or municipal governing body or agency, a community action agency, or other private non-profit organization. Only generic emergency facility or voucher programs are eligible. Individuals and families who are homeless are eligible for shelter and related services Domestic Abuse and Runaway shelters are not eligible.

### FUNDING

The \$1,131,000 annual state appropriation is shared among Milwaukee County, Dane County, and balance of state areas and is available for three pre-determined allocations based on shelter use within each area. Grant amounts, which range from \$1,100 to \$60,000, are enhanced through the use of funds from the Interest Bearing Real Estate Trust Account (IBRETA) funds.

In many areas, a local shelter or service provider is the designated lead agency which works with other shelters to develop a plan for distributing funds earmarked for that community. This plan is submitted in their application to Division of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and must be endorsed by all shelters in that community. The grant to the lead agency may not exceed 50% of the participating shelters combined operating budgets.

The balance of state shelter programs apply directly to DHCD for a grant. Funds are distributed by formula to all eligible applicants. The formula is based on the estimated number of shelter nights each applicant provides compared to the total number of shelter nights the balance of state agencies estimate they will provide. No applicant may receive a grant greater than 50% of its operating budget.

The grant cycle for this program begins in late summer, when notices of available State Shelter Subsidy funding are sent to potential grantees. Applications are available on the DHCD website, by e-mail, diskette and hard copy. Applications are due to DHCD in fall and grant contracts begin in January.

### For program information, contact:

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